

January 12, 2008

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF HIGHWAY DESIGN**

CONFERENCE REPORT

PROJECT: WALPOLE-CHARLESTOWN 14747
Reconstruct NH-12 from Main Street in North Walpole north to NH 12A in
Charlestown

DATE OF CONFERENCE: December 12, 2007

LOCATION OF CONFERENCE: Charlestown Silsby Library

ATTENDED BY: Donald Lyford – Project Manager
Bill Oldenburg – Chief of Preliminary Design
C.R. Willeke – Preliminary Design Engineer
John Evans – Bureau of Environment

See Attached List for Committee Members

SUBJECT: Place Making Workshop Meeting Notes

NOTES ON CONFERENCE:

On December 12th, 2007 approximately 20 people gathered at the Silsby Library / Municipal Building in Charlestown for a Place Making Workshop facilitated by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC). The intent was for Charlestown and Walpole residents to evaluate the existing NH 12 corridor and to identify opportunities for improvements along the corridor. The ideas generated will help define the context of the area and guide the development of options to improve the NH 12 corridor in Walpole and Charlestown.

Introduction

Donald Lyford, project manager for the NHDOT, welcomed everyone to the workshop and began with NHDOT staff introductions. Don asked the committee members to introduce themselves. A meeting attendance list is attached for reference. After audience introductions, Don handed the meeting over to Bill Oldenburg, NHDOT's Chief of Preliminary Design, to provide a brief overview of the CSS process.

Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Philosophy and Overview

Bill Oldenburg presented a condensed version of the CSS slide show that was presented at the previous meeting in October. He highlighted the CSS process steps that this group will be using to evaluate the NH 12 corridor:

- 1) Place Making Workshop,
- 2) Problem Statement,
- 3) Vision Statement,
- 4) Screening Criteria,
- 5) Brainstorm Alternatives,
- 6) Screen Alternatives,
- 7) Preferred Alternative, and
- 8) Public Hearing

Bill stated that tonight the group is at the beginning step - The Place Making Workshop. During the slide presentation, Bill presented examples of previous NHDOT CSS projects including NH 108 in Durham, Route 47 in Frankestown, and NH 112 in Woodstock. Bill stressed that community input is being sought and that the NHDOT has provided pictures, plans, and slides of the NH 12 corridor for tonight's meeting to help the committee members bring out their own experiences with the corridor. Bill stated that the NHDOT does not want to ruin the community or what is of value to the community when constructing the NH 12 improvements. Bill went on to discuss the term "Place Making". Place Making is used to look at an existing place and define what is good and bad about that place. This place making exercise will be somewhat different than exercises done for previous projects because NH 12 is more of an open corridor rather than a village center. The standard place making form has been modified to better fit the NH-12 open road condition. After the presentation, Bill divided the participants into 5 groups to conduct the Place Making Exercise. The exercise was divided into 3 parts:

- A) Evaluate the Place:
- B) Identify the Opportunities, and
- C) Develop a Problem Statement.

In Section "A" the groups are asked to rate a series of questions on a scale of 1 to 4. A score of 1 would correspond to disagreeing with the question asked, while a score of 4 would correspond to agreeing with the question asked. At the end of part "A" the scores for each question were added together and then averaged.

In Section "B" the groups were asked to respond to the following 4 questions:

- B1 – What do you like best about this corridor as a whole?
- B2 – List a few things that you would do to improve this corridor that could be done right away and that wouldn't cost a lot.
- B3 – What 3 changes would you make to this corridor in the long term that would have the biggest impact?

- B4 – What local partnerships or local talent can you identify that could help implement some of your proposed improvements? Please be as specific as possible.

In Section “C” the groups were asked to develop and reach consensus on a Problem Statement that defines the problems with the existing NH 12 corridor.

Each of the 5 groups (approximately 4 people per group) completed the exercise and presented the results.

The results of the place making exercise will be compiled into a separate document for future distribution to the advisory committee. The results will be used to develop a problem statement and vision statement for the corridor.

After the group presentations, the next meeting was scheduled for:

Wednesday,
February 13, 2008
Starting @ 6:00pm
Silsby Library / Municipal Building
Charlestown NH

Submitted by,

C.R. Willeke, PE
Preliminary Design Engineer

Attachment – Member Listing / Sign In Sheet

cc: D. Lyford
W. Oldenburg
J. Evans

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ATTENDANCE LIST

December 12, 2007

WALPOLE-CHARLESTOWN PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE		
In attend	<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
x	Fred Poisson	Charlestown Planning Board
x	William Sullivan	Charlestown Economic Development Authority
x	Aare Ilves	Citizen Representative (Charlestown)
x	Debra Livingston	Fall Mountain Regional School District
x	Jon LeClair	Charlestown Selectboard
x	Richard Holmes	Charlestown Conservation Commission
x	Bruce Putnam	Business Representative (Charlestown)
	Robert Beaudry	Business Representative (Charlestown)
x	Albert St. Pierre	Citizen Representative (Charlestown)
x	David Edkins	Charlestown Planning and Zoning Administrator
	Eric Lutz	UVLSRPC Commissioner (Charlestown)
	Keith Weed	Charlestown Highway Superintendent
x	Ed Smith	Charlestown Police Chief
x	Sharon Francis	Connecticut River Joint Commissions
x	Tim Garceau	Southwest Regional Planning Commission
	Christine Walker	UVLSRPC
x	Patrick Kiniry	North Walpole Village Commissioners
x	Jim Terrell	Walpole Road Agent (Selectboard Designee)
	Jeff Miller	Walpole Planning Board
	Marcia Galloway	Walpole Conservation Commission
	Donald Lennon	Business Representative (Walpole)
x	Ken Alton	Trans Canada Corporation
	TBD	New England Central Railroad

		General Public Guests
In Attend	<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
x	Marilyn Ledoux	Eagle Times Reporter
x	Jane Stansbury	Fall Mountain Regional School District
x	Steve Varone	Fall Mountain Regional School District

		Walpole-Charlestown Design Team
In Attend	<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
x	Nate Miller	Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Comm.
x	Don Lyford	NHDOT Project Manager
x	William Oldenburg	NHDOT Chief of Preliminary Design
x	C.R. Willeke	NHDOT Preliminary Design Engineer
x	Jon Evans	NHDOT Bureau of Environment
x	J.B. Mack	South West Regional Planning Commission